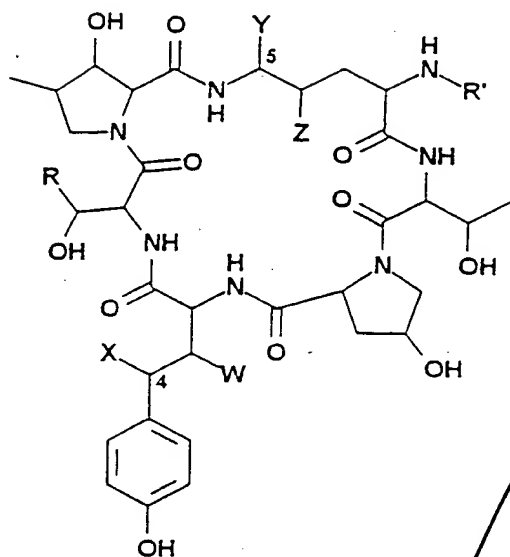


## Claims:

1. A process for the conversion of echinocandin class of peptides of the formula



(I)

wherein W, X, Y, Z, R and R' are as defined herein below :

10

|    |                                | <u>W</u> | <u>X</u> | <u>Y</u> | <u>Z</u> | <u>R</u>                            | <u>R'</u>                |
|----|--------------------------------|----------|----------|----------|----------|-------------------------------------|--------------------------|
|    | 1. Echinocandin B              | OH       | OH       | OH       | OH       | CH <sub>3</sub>                     | Linoleoyl                |
|    | 2. Pneumocandin A <sub>0</sub> | OH       | OH       | OH       | OH       | CH <sub>2</sub> -CO-NH <sub>2</sub> | 10,12-Dimethyl-myristoyl |
| 15 | 3. Pneumocandin A <sub>1</sub> | H        | OH       | OH       | OH       | CH <sub>2</sub> -CO-NH <sub>2</sub> | "                        |
|    | 4. Pneumocandin A <sub>2</sub> | OH       | OH       | H        | H        | CH <sub>2</sub> -CO-NH <sub>2</sub> | "                        |
|    | 5. Pneumocandin B <sub>0</sub> | OH       | OH       | OH       | OH       | CH <sub>2</sub> -CO-NH <sub>2</sub> | "                        |
|    | 6. Pneumocandin B <sub>2</sub> | OH       | OH       | H        | H        | CH <sub>2</sub> -CO-NH <sub>2</sub> | "                        |
|    | 7. Pneumocandin C <sub>0</sub> | OH       | OH       | OH       | OH       | CH <sub>2</sub> -CO-NH <sub>2</sub> | "                        |
| 20 | 8. Mulundocandin               | OH       | OH       | OH       | OH       | H                                   | 12-Methyl-tetradecanoyl  |

to their C4-homotyrosine monodeoxy analogues of the formula I, wherein W, X, Y, Z, R and R' are as defined herein below

|    |  | <u>W</u> | <u>X</u> | <u>Y</u> | <u>Z</u> | <u>R</u>                            | <u>R'</u>                    |
|----|--|----------|----------|----------|----------|-------------------------------------|------------------------------|
| 5  | 1. Deoxyechinocandin B<br>(Echinocandin C) | OH       | H        | OH       | OH       | CH <sub>3</sub>                     | Linoleoyl                    |
|    | 2. Deoxypneumocandin A <sub>0</sub>        | OH       | H        | OH       | OH       | CH <sub>2</sub> -CO-NH <sub>2</sub> | 10,12-Dimethyl-<br>myristoyl |
|    | 3. Deoxypneumocandin A <sub>1</sub>        | H        | H        | OH       | OH       | CH <sub>2</sub> -CONH <sub>2</sub>  | "                            |
| 10 | 4. Deoxypneumocandin A <sub>2</sub>        | OH       | H        | H        | H        | CH <sub>2</sub> -CONH <sub>2</sub>  | "                            |
|    | 5. Deoxypneumocandin B <sub>0</sub>        | OH       | H        | OH       | OH       | CH <sub>2</sub> -CONH <sub>2</sub>  | "                            |
|    | 6. Deoxypneumocandin B <sub>2</sub>        | OH       | H        | H        | H        | CH <sub>2</sub> -CONH <sub>2</sub>  | "                            |
|    | 7. Deoxypneumocandin C <sub>0</sub>        | OH       | H        | OH       | OH       | CH <sub>2</sub> -CONH <sub>2</sub>  | "                            |
| 15 | 8. Deoxymulundocandin                      | OH       | H        | OH       | OH       | H                                   | 12-Methyl tetra-<br>decanoyl |

which consists of a single step selective reduction of C4-htyr (homotyrosine) hydroxyl group of echinocandins to their monodeoxy analogues under neutral conditions without prior protection / deprotection of the equally facile C5-Orn (ornithine) hydroxyl group and purification of the monodeoxy compound from the crude reaction mixture.

2. A process as claimed in claim 1, wherein Mulundocandin is converted to Deoxymulundocandin.

25 3. A process as claimed in <sup>claim 1</sup> ~~claims 1 or 2~~, wherein the reduction reaction is carried out by hydrogenolysis with Raney nickel in ethanol at pH 7 and room temperature.

30 4. A process as claimed in <sup>claim 3</sup> ~~claims 1 to 3~~, wherein the hydrogenolysis is carried out in the ratio of 6.8 ml of Raney nickel per millimole of mulundocandin.